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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,605	02/27/2004	Jon Washington	D-1210	9214

28995 7590 02/26/2007
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EXAMINER

PAIK, STEVE S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2876

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/788,605

Applicant(s)

WASHINGTON ET AL.

Examiner

Steven S. Paik

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 45-73 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 62-73 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 45 and 56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 46-55 and 57-61 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/30/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of claiming the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of United States provisional application, 60/451,085 filed 2/28/2003 and is a division of 10/750,571 filed 12/30/02003 Patent No. 6,935,558 Which Claims Priority from Provisional Application 60/437,636 Which Claims Priority from Provisional Application 60/437,637.

Response to Amendment

2. Receipt is acknowledged of the Preliminary Amendment filed February 27, 2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
5. Claims 1, 45, and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peebles (US 6,557,757B1) in view of Haneda et al. (US 5,172,903).

Re claims 1, 45, and 56, Peebles discloses a media cassette (10) for a self-service terminal (SST, particularly automated teller machines (ATMs)) comprises a body (20) for receiving media to be dispensed in the form of a bundle of media (12) having end faces and side faces. At least one movable guide member (16, 17, 18, 19) is provided for locating the media within the body (20) and for engaging a respective side face of the media bundle (12). The guide member (16, 17, 18, 19) is urged towards the respective side face of the media bundle (12).

However, Peebles is silent about the cassette including an adjustable rail system.

Haneda et al. disclose a sheet feed cassette for holding various sizes of sheets to be fed to an image recording apparatus in a feed direction. The cassette comprises a first casing having a sheet placement area, and a second casing slidably connected to the first casing for expanding the area. The first casing is detachably mounted on the image recording apparatus. The groove portion 161C and 161D are holding rack gears 167A and B and provides a railing function and a cap respectively. The rack gears are operatively connected to another rack gear 170 providing a spacing function.

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to have incorporated the cassette for holding various sizes of media as taught by Haneda et al. into the teachings of Peebles for the purpose of handling currency with various dimensions.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 62-73 are allowable.

7. Claims 46-55, and 57-61 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: none of the cited prior arts of the record discloses, teaches, or fairly suggests the claimed apparatus and method comprising, among other things, a first rail assembly including a rail, cap, and at least one spacer, a second rail assembly including a rail, cap, and at least one spacer, where the first rail assembly and the second rail assembly differ in size and the method of fastening together the rail and the cap of the cassette.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Chang (US2003/0227127A1) discloses a paper cassette comprising a loading size adjustment device.

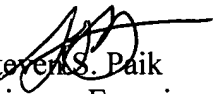
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 571-272-2404. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 6:30a-3:00p (Maxi-Flex*).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

Art Unit: 2876

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Steven S. Paik
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2876

ssp